

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date May 13, 1964

RUPERTO JERONIMO PENA, also known as RUPERTO JERONIMO PENA - ALFONSO, operator of the Habana Bar, 117 Decatur Street, furnished the following information in response to inquiries:

RUPERTO PENA advised that about a year or so ago two men bearing the following descriptions entered the Habana Bar about 8 or 9 o'clock one evening and they were heard to discuss matters pertaining to Cuba which left RUPERTO PENA with the definite impression that they were pro-CASTRO and pro-Communist:

One of the above two is described by RUPERTO PENA as a white male, age approximately 25, 5'7", 130 pounds, light brown complexion, black medium-long straight hair combed straight back who appeared to be of Mexican nationality and who also appeared to have a college education. RUPERTO PENA recalls he was wearing a sport coat but could not recall other details of his dress.

The other person was a Cuban, age 30, 150 pounds, 5'9", medium build, tan complexion, appeared to be a Cuban by his speech and also wore a sport coat, other details of his attire not being recalled by RUPERTO PENA.

RUPERTO PENA advised that he does not know the names of the above two persons or any other information about them but is quite certain that they were not seamen. He said he had not seen either of these two persons prior to the occasion he has described above. He did recall that they spoke favorably of FIDEL CASTRO and he recalls they mentioned that things were going well in Cuba under FIDEL CASTRO.

According to RUPERTO PENA he called either the FBI or Immigration and Naturalization Service at New Orleans on the following day to advise Federal authorities of the above incident. He relates he mentioned to the person to whom he spoke in Spanish that it was his opinion the above two persons were pro-CASTRO and pro-Communist. RUPERTO

On 5/11/64 at New Orleans, Louisiana File # NO 100-16601

by SA WARREN C. DEBRUEYS and

SA RICHARD E. LOGAN :gas

Date dictated 5/13/64

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PENA explained that he could ^{not} be positive if he called the FBI office or the Immigration office. He states that there are various phone numbers near the telephone including FBI, local police and Border Patrol and he selected one of those numbers and was under the impression he had called the FBI or Immigration regarding the above matter. He has no information concerning the residences of the above two persons nor any other additional information except as follows:

He then mentioned that about four or five days after the two above described persons were in the Habana Bar he observed them drive by on the street in front of the Habana Bar. He is able to recall that they were driving in either a Ford or Chevrolet, color not recalled and that the one who appeared to be a Cuban was driving and the other was seated along side of him. This car appeared suddenly in front of the bar but RUPERTO PENA was able to run outside on the street and obtain the license number of this car. He does not recall nor did he know at the time that he took the number whether the car carried Louisiana plates or the plates of some other state. He advised that immediately after he jotted down the number of that car he took the number to CARLOS BRINGUIER a Cuban who operates a store next door to the Habana Bar. According to RUPERTO PENA he explained to BRINGUIER that two men who had been in the Habana Bar several days previously and whose conversation indicated they were pro-CASTRO and pro-Communist in PENA's opinion, had just passed in front of the Habana Bar in a car. He also explained to BRINGUIER that he had previously called the FBI to tell them about the past appearance of the two persons described above in the Habana Bar and that he had related to the FBI the other details concerning the conversation of these two men and the fact that he, RUPERTO PENA, had told the FBI that he thought they were pro-Communist and pro-CASTRO. RUPERTO PENA explained that he requested BRINGUIER to call the FBI since BRINGUIER spoke English and he, RUPERTO PENA, does not speak English. He was not present when BRINGUIER called the FBI. RUPERTO PENA was unable to explain why he claims that

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He did not know whether he called the FBI or Immigration and Naturalization Service except to state that he had originally called either the FBI or Immigration and Naturalization Service and must have been under the impression that he called the FBI. PENA stated he was able to recall that he advised BRINGUIER to call the FBI to furnish the additional information regarding the license plates.

RUPERTO PENA also mentioned that he had never seen LEE HARVEY OSWALD in the Habana Bar or any other location. He had no information about LEE HARVEY OSWALD being present in the Habana Bar with any other individual. Specifically he stated that the two persons whom he has described above as being in the bar were to his knowledge in the Habana Bar only on the one occasion described above and that the only other time he saw those two persons was the occasion when they appeared in front of the Habana Bar in an automobile as set forth above.

RUPERTO PENA also mentioned that he never advised CARLOS BRINGUIER that he had ever seen LEE HARVEY OSWALD in the Habana Bar or that the FBI had ever told him, RUPERTO PENA, that any person was pro-CASTRO or pro-Communist or that he had ever seen LEE HARVEY OSWALD in the presence of a person whom the FBI was seeking. Logically, according to RUPERTO PENA, he would have never been able to have told CARLOS BRINGUIER that either or both of the two men he has described above were ever seen by him or anyone else in the presence of LEE HARVEY OSWALD. In fact, RUPERTO PENA said that the two men about whom he allegedly called the FBI or Immigration a year or so ago have to his knowledge no connection whatsoever with LEE HARVEY OSWALD. Mr. RUPERTO PENA does not recall what other persons may have been in the Habana Bar when the two men described above were in the bar. He stated that his brother, ORESTES PENA, the owner of the Habana Bar, does not know anything about the incident and that the barmaid, ARMANDA

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JARVIS has no such knowledge.

Three photographs depicting LEE HARVEY OSWALD and a small group of persons standing in front of the International Trade Mart, New Orleans, at which time OSWALD was distributing pamphlets on the Fair Play for Cuba Committee were displayed to RUPERTO PENA and he was unable to identify any of the persons reflected in these photographs as persons he had seen previously or of whose identity he was aware.

RUPERTO PENA furnished the following background information regarding himself:

Name	RUPERTO JERONIMO PENA, whose name in Latin American countries would also include his mother's name, i.e., RUPERTO JERONIMO PENA - ALFONSO
Race	White
Sex	Male
Nationality	Cuban (Cuban passport # 10974)
Occupation	Manager, Habana Bar, 117 Decatur Street, and lives above bar
Date of Birth	3/5/27
Place of Birth	Cuba
Alien Registration No.	A 11 286 712, arrived in U. S. 12/8/61 at Miami, Fla., as a Cuban exile.
Prior addresses	4 months New York City, 1962 at 166 - 82nd Street, Manhattan; prior to 12/8/61 resided in Cuba at Colon No. 253 in the Province of Matanzas

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Marital Status
Wife

Married
IRAZDA DELGADO de PENA,
presently resides at
Manguito, Matanzas
YRADA SOSA and SACARIO
DELGADO who are residents
of Manguito.
Merchant

Occupation in Cuba
Political Affiliations
In Cuba

Claims never aligned with
any group connected with
CASTRO and was pro-BATISTA.